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UNCLAS QUITO 000796

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: ECUADOR TO COMPLY WITH LIGHTER BAN ON U.S. FLIGHTS

REF: STATE 41383

1. Per Reftel, Ecuador's Director of Civil Aviation, Raphael Davila, was informed on March 10 of the TSA ban on all butane lighters within secure areas and on flights to and from the U.S. Davila said he already knew of the ban and that he would take the proper steps to ensure that the ban was enforced on international flights originating from Ecuador en route to the U.S. Three carriers currently have direct flights from Ecuador to the U.S.: American Airlines, Continental and LanChile.

KENNEY